

The Anderson School – P.S. 334 - PTA Executive Board Mtg. 9/11/12 – Approved Minutes

The meeting commenced at 6:15pm.

1. **Attendees:** 21 Board Members
2. **Minutes:** Minutes from the June 2012 PTA Executive Board meeting were unanimously approved.
3. **Introductions:** We went around the room and everyone introduced ourselves for the new season.
4. **Principal's Report:** Jodi Hyde reported that
 - a. **Reward School:** Anderson is now a Reward school. There are no other citywide G&T schools that made that prestigious new level.
 - b. **Test scores:** Anderson students are in the top 5 for all of NY State for each testing grade:
 - #1 in NYS for ELA in grades 3, 4, 6, 7, and 8;
 - #2 in NYS for ELA in grade 5;
 - #3 in NYS for math in grade 3;
 - #1 in NYS for math in grades 4 and 5;
 - #2 in NYS for math in grade 6;
 - #5 in NYS for math in grade 7,
 - #4 in NYS for math grade 8.
 - c. **Grants:** Anderson has received a number of grants, including:
 - i. **A/V in Auditorium:** The auditorium is getting upgrades to the audio/visual equipment.
 - ii. **SmartBoards:** We got 4 new SmartBoards that we needed, with some additional computers to run them.
 - iii. **Wellness Center:** We're slated to get some treadmills and other exercise equipment for the wellness center.
 - iv. **Schoolyard:** There is a plan to paint the schoolyard with a track.
 - d. **Meet the Teacher Night:** 9/27 is Meet the Teacher Night.
 - e. **High School Info. Night:** Clara Hemphill (author of many guidebooks on schools) will be speaking to 8th grade parents on 9/20.
 - f. **Upcoming Trips:**
 - i. 5th grade going to Philly 11/1 and 11/2
 - ii. 6th grade is going to Camp Spears
 - iii. 7th grade going to Clearwater on 9/27
 - g. **Engrade:** We are continuing with the Engrade system. There are some new teachers, and they will be set up shortly.
 - h. The Google sites are coming up.
 - i. We have a new elementary Spanish teacher, but we're waiting for reciprocity so we can officially hire the teacher.

5. **President's Report:** Joy Heinze (PTA Co-President) said:
 - a. **September PTA Meeting:** For the first PTA meeting on 9/12/12, we will have both morning and evening meetings.
 - b. **WITS:** There was a meeting with the head of school foods to discuss unanswered questions about the Wellness in the Schools program. The school will have it for at least this year.

6. **Treasurer's Report:**
 - a. Nick Winter (Co-Treasurer) reviewed the treasurer's report.
 - b. There is a small amount of restricted funds that were raised for a specific cause. Amy Davidson (VP, Fundraising) cautioned that it would be better to raise for the general school than a specific cause.
 - c. Nick reminded the board of the importance of depositing money in the Anderson bank accounts if you are collecting money at an event.
 - d. We plan to take the following people off the Chase account: Robin Rosenblum, Joli Golden, Janet Chang Manabat, and Roxanne Wild Feeley.

7. **Audit:** Joli Golden (VP, Community Affairs) discussed a search for a new auditor. We had some recommendations, but would like to do more research before making a recommendation. We plan to discuss it at the October meetings.

8. **Budget:** Bojan Stoyanov (Budget Committee, Co-Chair) discussed that the budget hasn't changed.
 - a. We don't have the full request from the school yet, as the roster hasn't been finalized yet.
 - b. The school has requested that the PTA pay for Playworks.
 - c. There are several openings on the budget committee.

9. **Fundraising:** Jennie Thompson (VP, Fundraising) reported:
 - a. **Welcome Picnic:** The welcome picnic went well. It was not a fundraiser.
 - b. **Picture Day:** 10/2 is picture day (6th grade will be away, so they will do it on 10/5, which is make-up day. They will have their make-up day be in November).
 - c. **Halloween Movie Night:** Halloween movie night will be 10/19.
 - d. **Thanksgiving Eve:** We plan to have our annual Thanksgiving Eve fundraiser. We will make some changes to the activities and food offerings, based on past experience.
 - e. **Winter Wonderfest:** We plan to have a Winter Wonderfest on 12/1. This even will be like Kid Art.
 - f. **Kid Fit:** We plan to have a Kid Fit event this year.
 - g. **VH1 Save the Music Day:** We will be doing this event again.

- h. **Election Day:** We discussed whether or not we should have a bake sale or something like it on Election Day. No one volunteered. We'll see if someone wants to do at the General PTA mtg.
 - i. **Book Fair:** Kathy Sandler (PTA Secretary) asked whether we should do the Book Fair again. The Co-Presidents will check with the administration and SLT to get their feedback.

- 10. **Direct Appeal:**
 - a. Amy Davidson (VP, Fundraising) reviewed the direct appeal campaign schedule.
 - b. She presented options for promotions, and we voted on the umbrella.
 - c. Amy proposed purchasing a cart that we can use during events, to wheel out merchandise, for example. The board supported that purchase.

- 11. **Communications:**
 - a. The Communications Committee will be breaking up the duties so that Garghi will do the Website, Nicole will do newsletters. Stuart will be voted in as well at the upcoming general PTA meeting as VP of communications
 - b. We need timely information from everyone, and we need staffers for the Anderson Journal.
 - c. All PTA communication should have a link to the PTA website at the bottom as an easy way to encourage people to visit there for info.

- 12. **Community Affairs:** No news yet from this committee.

- 13. **SLT:** Mindy Wigutow (PTA Rep. to the SLT) reported that 9/19 is the first SLT meeting

- 14. **Auction Update:** 4/13/13 is the date of the auction.

- 15. **New Business:** Nick Winter discussed the Chase challenge, in which the school could get charitable funds if we got enough Facebook votes. Since the current voting ends 9/19, we decided there's not enough time to get the word out. Instead, we'll do this at the end of the year.
 - We also discussed the desire to re-start the grant writing committee.

The meeting adjourned at 7:55pm.